

Constitutional Foundations

US History & Government



Name: _____

Period: _____ Teacher: _____

Vocabulary:

Pontiac's Rebellion:

Proclamation of 1763:

Albany Plan of Union:

Main Ideas:

1. Identify the sides who fought in the French and Indian War?
2. What were the causes of the French and Indian War?
3. What was the outcome of the French and Indian War?
4. What did the Indians involved with Pontiac's Rebellion hope to accomplish?
5. What was the effect of the French and Indian War and Pontiac's Rebellion on the relationship between the colonies and Great Britain?

Vocabulary:

Stamp Act:

Sons of Liberty:

Boston Massacre:

Intolerable Acts:

First Continental Congress:

Main Ideas:

1. How did colonial governments differ from the British government?
2. Why did the British impose new taxes on the colonies?
3. What three tactics did colonists use to protect British taxes?
4. How did tensions between the colonists and Britain escalate after 1767?
5. How did the Coercive Acts lead to colonial unity?

Issues that led to the Revolution

Issue	What it meant	Why the colonists objected	What they did
The Sugar Act (1764)			
The Currency Act (1764)			
The Quartering Act (1765)			

Issue	What it meant	Why the colonists objected	What they did
The Stamp Act (1765)			
The Townshend Acts (1767)			
Tea Act (1773)			
Quebec Act (1774)			

Steps Leading to the Revolution

Entrance Task: To what extent was Chris justified in hitting his father and running away?

Instructions: Working with your partner, complete the missing right side of the t-chart by comparing the events of both stories. The first event has been done for you.

Chris's Story	Steps leading to the Revolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chris's absentee fatherChris's car accidentChris's dad moves back inChris's curfewChris having to pay his dad backChris having to drive the TaurusChris trying to reason with his fatherChris painting the TaurusChris's dad trying to take away his cell phoneChris running away and telling his dad to "go to hell"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Salutary Neglect

On a scale of 0-10, to what extent were the Colonists justified in declaring their independence from Britain? Explain.

What influence did the Enlightenment Thinkers have on the early American government?

Instructions: In the following activity you will investigate how the Enlightenment Thinkers influenced the early documents of our nation. Review each of the Enlightenment Thinkers profiled below. Cite the documents he influenced and write down the quote which best exemplifies that influence.

Thinker	Ideas About Government	Documents he Influenced	Quote of the Best Example
John Locke	<i>Believed that government should be formed only with the approval of the people and that government had a responsibility to protect life, liberty and property of the people. If the government did not uphold these responsibilities, then the people had the right to replace the government. This idea was referred to as the <u>Social Contract</u>.</i>		
Baron de Montesquieu	<i>Believed that a government should be separated into three branches to prevent one individual or group from gaining too much power; "Separation of Powers"</i>		
Voltaire	<i>Believed that all people should be given freedom of religion and speech.</i>		
Jean Jacques Rousseau	<i>Believed in a direct democracy where people would choose their leaders. He also believed that sometimes people had to give up some of their freedom in favor of the common good.</i>		

Rank the Enlightenment Thinkers in order of their influence on the formation of American government, with # 1 your first choice.

1. _____ Why?
2. _____ Why?
3. _____ Why?
4. _____ Why?

Events that Shaped our Government

Instructions: Fill in the matrix using the cards. When finished, rank the events 1-8, with #1 the event that had the most significant effect on shaping our government. Make sure you justify your answer on the back of this sheet.

Event	Ranking	Description of Event	How did this event shape our government?
Magna Carta			
Glorious Revolution			
English Bill of Rights			
Mayflower Compact			
House of Burgesses			
Albany Plan of Union			
Declaration of Independence			
Articles of Confederation			

Constitutional Foundations Wall

Background: The US Constitution is a form of government that provides for a balance between personal freedom and a strong central government. This balance is not easy to achieve. This unique government blueprint was based upon ideas and events that illustrated the pros and cons of strong and weak governments.

Instructions: In the graphic organizer below, place the eight events from the handout reading that influenced the Constitution in the “bricks” supporting the Constitution. Some of the “bricks” are large and some are small. You are to decide which of the eight events we have looked at had the most impact on our present society and place them accordingly into the appropriate size and numbered brick. Use each event only once. The first row of Enlightenment thinkers has been done for you.

1.			
2.	3.	4	
5.	6.	7.	8
ROUSSEAU	LOCKE	VOLTAIRE	MONTESQUIEU

Vocabulary:

militia:

loyalist:

Second Continental Congress:

natural rights:

Main Ideas:

1. What actions did the Second Continental Congress take in response to the outbreak of war with Britain?
2. Based on the picture on page 109 did it seem likely that the Patriots would defeat the British? Why?
3. Why did Loyalists oppose the Patriot's cause?
4. Who was Thomas Paine and why was *Common Sense* so influential?
5. What ideas were expressed in the Declaration of Independence?
6. How did the Enlightenment affect the American Revolution?

Declaration of Independence

Preamble: What reason(s) did the Founding Fathers give for their decision to write out a declaration?

Statement of beliefs: What beliefs did the Founding Fathers declare they held?

List of Complaints: What are a few of the complaints?

Statement of prior attempts to redress grievances: In what way(s) did the framers claim to have already tried in addressing the complaints?

Declaration of Independence: What will change in the colonies as a result of the Declaration?

Analyzing Features of the Articles of Confederation

Instructions: Each placard you will receive explains one of the features of the Articles of Confederation. Carefully examine the drawing on the placard, read the information on it, and discuss the question(s). Then complete the information in the appropriate place on the matrix below.

Placard	Feature	Why was this included in the Articles of Confederation?	Possible problems with this feature
A	No chief executive		Lack of leadership from central government. No single leader for the government.
B	Laws needed approval by 9 of the 13 states	Wanted to protect individual states' power. Fear of a strong central government.	
C	Congress did not have the power to tax citizens. It could only request tax money from states.		States often chose not to pay taxes, and the federal government didn't have the funds to operate effectively.
D	Congress did not have the power to draft an army. It could only request states to send men for military services.	Fear of a central government with a strong army that might take away citizens' rights.	

Placard	Feature	Why was this included in the Articles of Confederation?	Possible problems with this feature
E	No national court system	Fear of central government with a court system that might be unfair to the rights of states.	
F	Any amendments (changes) to the Articles must be approved by all 13 states		Nearly impossible to make changes to Articles. Any one state could stop an amendment that all the other states wanted.
G	Congress did not have the power to collect state debts owed to the federal government	Fear of a strong central government that could force states to pay for things they didn't want.	
H	Congress did not have the power to settle disputes among states		Disputes among states often could not be resolved. Created disunity among states.

Vocabulary:

Yorktown:

Treaty of Paris (1783):

manumission:

Main Ideas:

1. Describe the war in the south
2. Explain how the Battle of Yorktown might be viewed either as a Patriot victory or as a British loss.
3. Explain how the Revolutionary War ended.
4. Explain how the Revolutionary War affected each of the following groups:

Loyalists	
Native Americans	
Women	
Slaves	

-
- This image shows a full page of blank white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook paper or a form designed for handwritten entries. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

How did the colonists win the war?

American Colonies	Great Britain
Population: 2.75 million (1/3 Loyalists, 1/3 Patriots, 1/3 Undecided)	Population: 12 million
Limited Industry	Most industrialized nation in the world
No money	Wealthiest nation in the world
No army, no navy	Well-trained army, world's best navy
Fighting on familiar ground	Fighting on unfamiliar ground
Foreign aid	Worn-out finances from the French & Indian War
No established government	History of a strong monarchy
Lack of utility	Lack of enthusiasm in England for war (much like the US in Vietnam)

When comparing the United States and Great Britain, who appears to have the advantage and why?

Reasons for American Victory

- Americans were fighting for a cause- independence; British saw the war as putting down a riot
- Americans were fighting on their own soil
- Americans received foreign aid from France, Spain, Holland
- Americans used guerilla warfare
- Public opinion in Great Britain was divided

What did America Win?

Provisions of the Treaty of Paris

- Britain recognized the colonies as independent
- US boundaries established
 - East: Atlantic Ocean
 - North: Great Lakes
 - West: Mississippi River (except New Orleans)
 - South: Northern border of Florida
- Use could use the Mississippi River and American fishing rights were recognized off the coast of Newfoundland
- Fate of Loyalist properties would be discussed by the new US government

Vocabulary:

republic:

Articles of Confederation:

federal:

Shay's Rebellion:

Main Ideas:

1. Why did most states not want to grant poor men the right to vote?
2. What is a bicameral legislature? Why did most states choose a bicameral legislature?
3. What was the structure of the new government under the Articles of Confederation?
4. What were the plans for settling and governing the Northwest Territory under the Articles of Confederation?
5. What Spanish and British actions showed that they did not take the new American nation seriously?
6. What events suggested that a stronger national government was necessary?

Shay's Rebellion

Instructions: After reading “What was Shay’s Rebellion?” sort the passages in the envelope into relevant and irrelevant information. Use the information from the passages in your relevant column to write a summary of the event in the space below.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Closure Question:

What weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation played a role in Shay's Rebellion?

The Articles of Confederation

Instructions: Study the summaries carefully and read each imaginary situation described below. In the space provided, explain the provision or weakness involved.

Provisions of the Articles of Confederation (effective 1781)

- Gave each state one vote, regardless of size of population
- Provided for two levels of government: federal and state
- Gave the federal government power to declare war, make peace, sign treaties, borrow money, set standards for coins and for weights and measures, open a postal service, and deal with Indians
- Demanded that all states transfer their claims to western territories to the national government

Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

- Federal government lacked control over trade between states
 - Federal government lacked control over foreign trade
 - Federal government could not collect taxes
 - Articles required the agreement of all the states to change the Articles
 - Federal government lacked power to force states to cooperate
1. Spain and France plan to attack the new confederation of states. Explain what the Articles allow the national government to do in this situation.
 2. Twelve of the thirteen states agree that the national policy toward Indians should be one of peace and of protecting land rights. One state disagrees. The change cannot be made. Why?
 3. Massachusetts has 270,000 people, while Georgia has twenty-five thousand. Massachusetts wants to pass a law abolishing slavery, but Georgia does not. Which provision of the Articles protects Georgia's rights?

Great Compromise	
Three-Fifths Compromise	

Main Ideas:

1. What were some of the characteristics of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention?
2. Use the "Meet the Framers" Infographic to answer the following question. How do you think the experiences and backgrounds of the Framers influenced the way the Constitution was shaped? Do you think a more diverse group would have written a different document altogether? Explain.
3. Complete the table below to compare the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan.

	Elements of the Plan	What delegates supported the Plan?	Why delegates supported the plan?
Virginia Plan			
New Jersey Plan			

4. Use the decision point on page 147 to answer the following questions:
 - a. Why did Henry oppose ratifying the Constitution?
 - b. Why did Hamilton favor ratifying the Constitution?
 - c. What decision would you have made? Why?
5. What was the significance of the Three-Fifths Compromise?

The Constitutional Convention

Philadelphia, PA 1787



The Delegates- American _____

- 55 men who were
 - Well- _____
 - Well- _____
 - Well- _____
 - Well- _____

- Average age: _____
 - Alexander _____, Edmund Randolph, Gouverneur Morris, and James _____ were all in their _____
- Education:
 - Over half of the delegate graduated from college
 - 9 from _____
 - 6 from _____
 - 6 from British Universities
 - 5 from _____
- Past political experience
 - 8 signed the _____
 - 25 served in the _____
 - 15 helped draft the _____ in 1776-1780
 - 40 served in the _____ in 1783-1787

Vocabulary:

ratification

The Federalist:

Bill of Rights:

popular sovereignty:

limited government"

Main Ideas:

1. Compare and contrast the Federalists and Antifederalists views on national government.

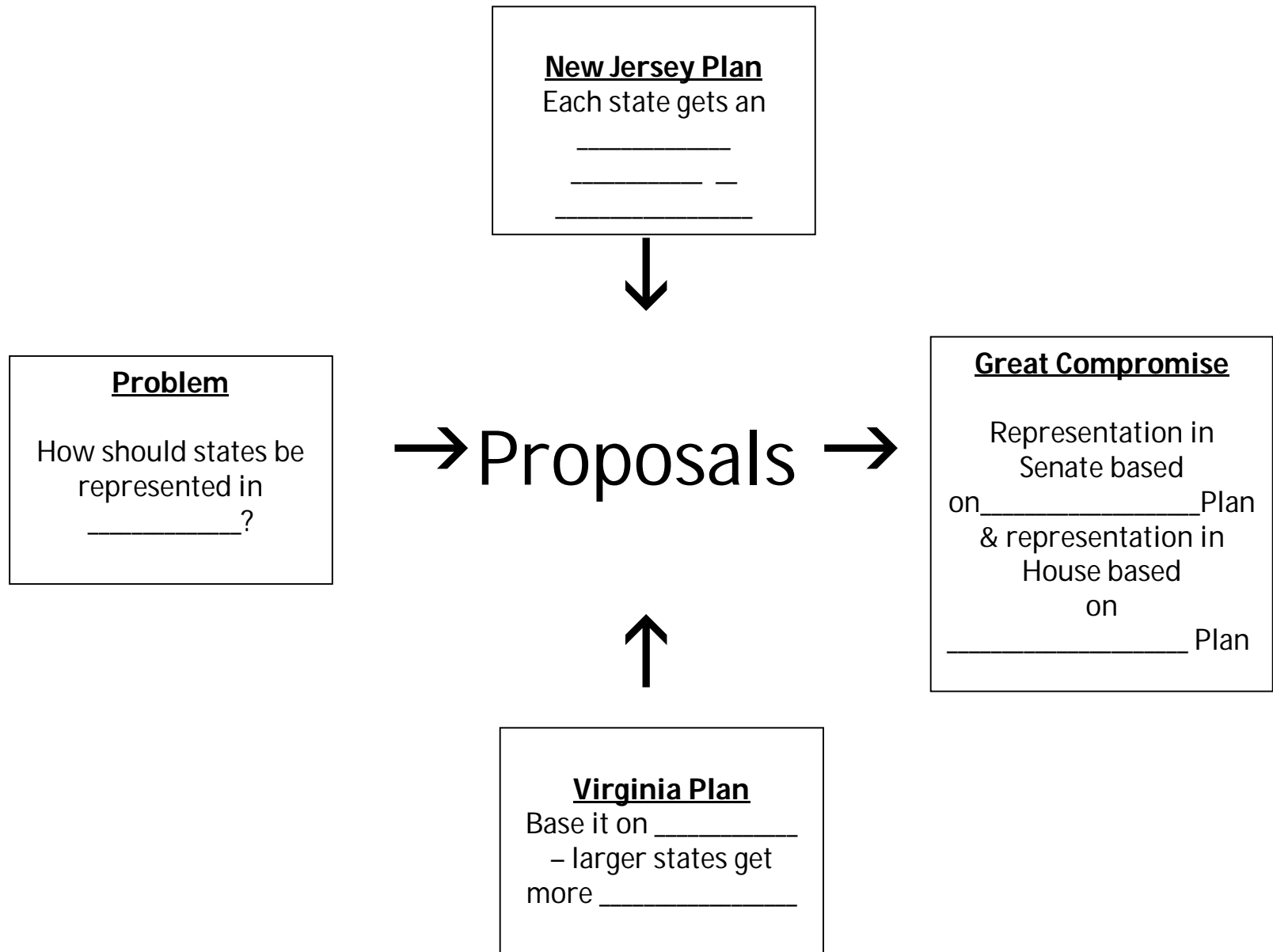
Federalists	Antifederalists

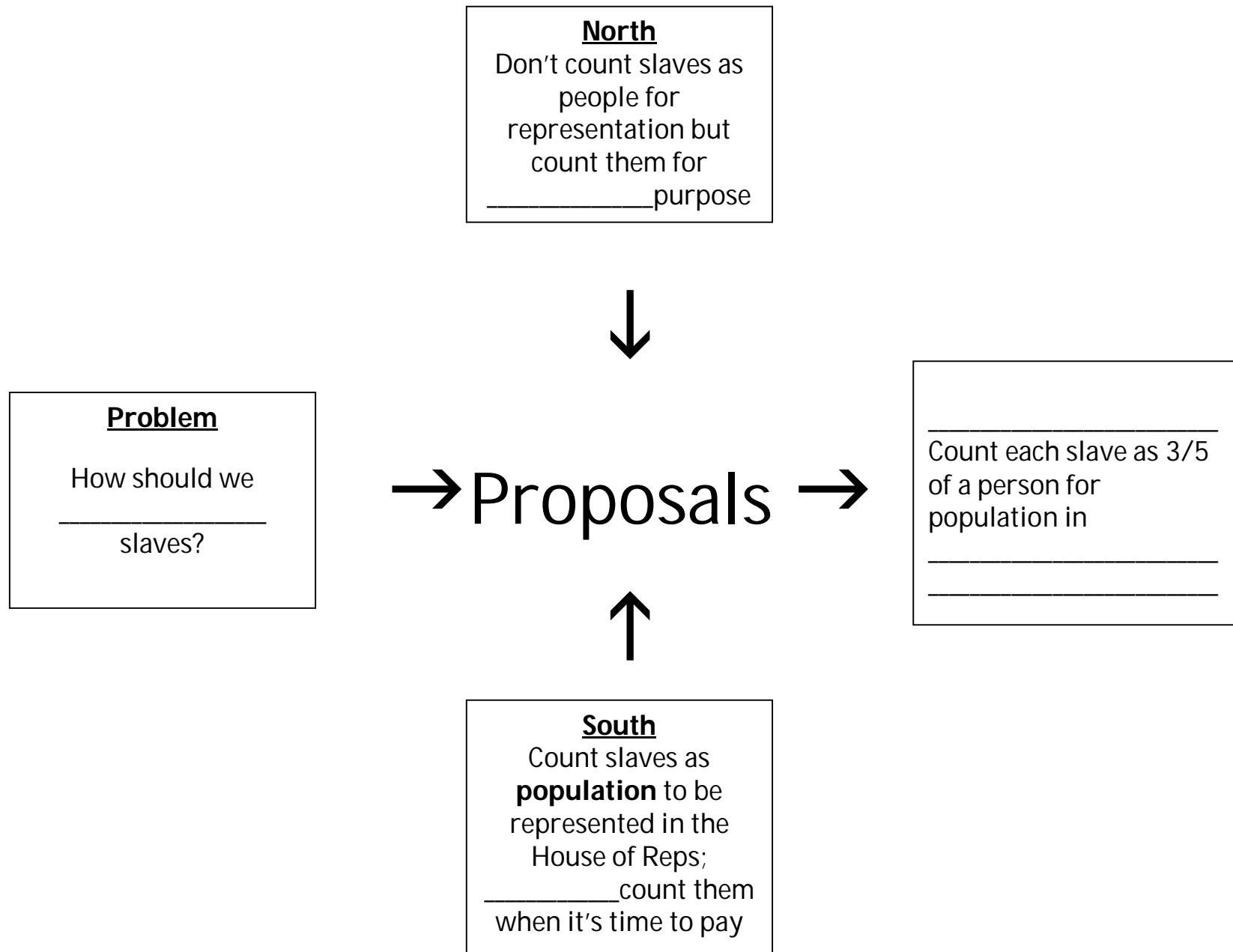
2. Why did the Federalists have more support than the Antifederalists?
3. What was the importance of the inclusion of a bill of rights in the Constitution?
4. Why did Madison feel it was necessary to add the Ninth Amendment?
5. Why do you think the delegates made amending the Constitution difficult?

Governments of the United States: 1781 and 1789

How the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation were corrected by the Constitution.

Articles of Confederation	Constitution of the United States
States have most of the power. The national government has _____	States have some of the power, but most power is given to the _____
_____ executive officer to carry out the laws of Congress	A president heads the executive branch of the government
No _____ Only state court exists	Both national and state courts exist
Congress is responsible to the _____	Congress is responsible to the _____
Nine out of 13 states have to approve a law before it can go into effect	Laws may be passed by a _____ vote of both houses of Congress
Congress has no power to _____	Congress given the power to tax
Congress cannot regulate trade among the _____	Congress given the power to regulate _____ and _____ trade
Each state coins its own _____ There is no _____ currency	Only the _____ government has the power to _____ money





Problem
What should we do
about the _____
and
runaway slaves?

→ **Proposals** →

North

- Wanted Congress to regulate _____
- Runaways to _____
- ____ should remain free.

South

- No gov't _____ in commerce.
- They feared the gov't may _____ the slave trade.
- They wanted their slave property _____.

Compromise

- Congress could regulate foreign & interstate _____
- Congress could not tax _____
- Congress could not restrict slaving for ____ years (1808)
- Congress could levy a \$20 tax on each _____ brought in
- Runaway slaves would have to be brought back to their _____

National Executive

Chosen by the _____
to serve an unspecified #
of years



Executive Compromise

- A _____
elected by a group of people
called ***electors***, and serving a
term of 4 years, will head up the
executive branch of government
- 3 branches of gov't will
operate as _____ to
maintain a balance of power in
the gov't

→ Proposals →

Problem

Who should
_____ the nation?
Who will
_____ the new
leader?



No Chief Executive

A powerful executive
was _____

Empire of Reason

1. What did Alexander Hamilton (NY delegate) hope to achieve in Philadelphia?
2. What was New York's position on Shay's Rebellion?
3. What conditions existed that led to Shay's Rebellion?
4. What was the outcome of the rebellion?
5. What was the significance of the rebellion?
6. What evidence can you find in the video to demonstrate that this time of our nation's history under the Articles of Confederation was the "Crucial Period?"
7. How confident were the merchants in the economy of the nation under the Articles of Confederation?
8. Complete the comparison chart below

Arguments against the strong national government	Arguments in favor of a strong national government

9. Complete the comparison chart below

What groups would not support a strong national government?	What groups would support a strong national government?

10. What provisions did New York insist upon?

11. What finally convinced New York to ratify the Constitution?

12. Do you think the talk of separation for New York City was a real possibility or was it just an idle threat?

13. What was the public reaction to the ratification of the Constitution?

14. The vote was a close one: 27 against ratification, 30 supporting it. Imagine how your world would be different had the vote gone the other way.

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